

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 9 and 10 as follows:

9. (Amended) A paint application pad as defined in Claim 26 ~~Claim 8~~ herein said pad is circular in plan and includes a generally convex exterior surface facing opposite the portion of said pad in contact with said backing portion.

10. (Amended) An application pad as defined in Claim 26 ~~Claim 8~~ wherein said pad body comprises two layers, each being made from a foam of different porosity.

Please add Claim 26, as follows:

-- 26. (New) A paint application pad adapted for use with thixotropic paints and adapted to provide improved paint retention, said pad having a relatively stiff but flexible backing portion and having laminated thereto a body portion made from a paint-absorbent, open cell flexible plastic material, said pad presenting a front working face portion adapted to apply paint to a surface to be covered with paint, said body further including a plurality of open passages extending from said working face into said body to form paint retention wells in addition to those formed by the open cell structure of said pad body, said wells being present in an amount of at least ten wells per square inch, said walls each having a diameter of from about 0.010 inches to about 0.100 inches. --